

Section I:**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.121 to the CLAIMS**

Claims 1 - 13 (cancelled)

14. (currently amended) A computer-implemented method for automatically rating the performance of one or more resource vendors in a grid computing environment, comprising the steps of:

receiving one or more grid resource self-reports, each self-report having statistics

regarding Online Transaction Processing job processing;

responsive to said receiving of self-reports, accessing one or more client-driven performance criteria definitions, comprising accessing at least a Service Level Agreements Agreement;

receiving one or more job results from a grid resource;

performing by a logical device an analysis of said received job results and said received self-reports against said Service Level Agreement client-driven performance criteria and said self-reports, said analysis comprising performing one or more analyses pertaining to job types where job type is selected from a group of Online Transaction Processing jobs; batch jobs, database jobs, and scientific jobs; said analysis further comprising determining one or more sub-ratings selected from [[the]] a group [[of]] comprising percentage of jobs completed, percentage of jobs completed within specified time constraints, an interactiveness rating, and a cost compliance rating, and a results accuracy rating; said analysis further comprising determining a composite rating using a weighted combination of a plurality of sub-ratings; and

producing a grid resource rating table having sub-ratings having an indication of the age of the information upon which the table is based having an indicator of the number of jobs upon which the ranking for each resource vendor is based and having a composite rating; including producing in a human-readable report; producing or in a computer-readable report in a computer memory device, or in both a human-readable report and in a computer-readable report in a computer memory device, said report including producing a rank-ordered Grid Vendor Rating Table for a plurality of resource vendors according to a weighted analysis of said sub-ratings for each resource vendor~~[[:]]~~.

accessing said produced Grid Vendor Rating Table, a job request, a set of available grid resource characteristics, and one or more client-driven performance criteria definitions; and

producing a grid vendor selection which meets said client-driven performance definitions according its grid resource characteristics, and which is indicated by said Grid Vendor Rating Table to historically meet desired performance criteria.

Claims 15 - 39 (cancelled)

40. (new) A computer memory comprising:

a computer readable memory suitable for encoding software; and

one or more computer programs encoded by said computer readable memory and configured to:

receive one or more grid resource self-reports, each self-report having statistics

regarding Online Transaction Processing job processing;

responsive to said receiving of self-reports, accessing one or more Service Level

Agreements;

receive one or more job results from a grid resource;

performing by a logical device an analysis of said received job results and said received

self-reports against said Service Level Agreement, said analysis comprising

determining one or more sub-ratings selected from a group comprising percentage

of jobs completed, percentage of jobs completed within specified time constraints,

an interactiveness rating, and a cost compliance rating; and

producing a grid resource rating table having sub-ratings in a human-readable report or in

a computer-readable report in a computer memory device, or in both a human-

readable report and in a computer-readable report in a computer memory device,

said report including a rank-ordered Grid Vendor Rating Table for a plurality of

resource vendors according to a weighted analysis of said sub-ratings for each

resource vendor.

41. (new) A system comprising:

a hardware means for performing a logical process;

a self-report receiver portion of said hardware means configured to receive one or more grid resource self-reports, each self-report having statistics regarding Online Transaction Processing job processing;

a Service Level Agreement accesser portion of said hardware means configured to, responsive to said receiving of self-reports, access one or more Service Level Agreements;

a job results receiver portion of said hardware means configured to receive one or more job results from a grid resource;

an analyzer portion of said hardware means configured to perform an analysis of said received job results and received self-reports against said Service Level Agreement, said analysis comprising determining one or more sub-ratings selected from a group comprising percentage of jobs completed, percentage of jobs completed within specified time constraints, an interactiveness rating, and a cost compliance rating; and

a report producer portion of said hardware means configured to produce a grid resource rating table having sub-ratings in a human-readable report or in a computer-readable report in a computer memory device, or in both a human-readable report and in a computer-readable report in a computer memory device, said report including a rank-ordered Grid Vendor Rating Table for a plurality of resource vendors according to a weighted analysis of said sub-ratings for each resource vendor.

42. (new) The system as set forth in Claim 41 wherein said hardware means comprises a microprocessor.

43. (new) The system as set forth in Claim 41 wherein said hardware means comprises an integrated circuit.